

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at line 3 of page 6 has been amended as follows:

--All output to the output devices 100 is compiled into a suitable format by any conventional output compiler 110. The output compiler 110 obtains a reference to an advertisement from a schedule 120 supplied by the scheduler 140 and uses the reference to obtain the advertisement data from the local storage device 130, which contains the database of advertisements. The output compiler 110 renders text in addition to image and video output from standard formats such as JPEG and MPEG as well as other more compact formats, which in a trade off for their more compact storage size, would require more compilation time than the standard formats. The output compiler 110 also carries out decoding and synthesis of sound data and information. The output compiler 110 can also be adapted to output the advertisements and other items of information in a suitable format for multi-displays.--

The paragraph beginning at line 14 of page 6 has been amended as follows:

--The scheduler 140 outputs [[a]] schedule 120, which will be discussed in more detail later. The scheduler 140 records a log of advertisements and other items of information to be scheduled and displayed by the output devices 100. The actual advertisements and other items of information are stored in the local storage device 130.

The paragraph beginning at line 18 of page 6 has been amended as follows:

--The user interacts with the apparatus 1 through the user interface 150. The user interface 150 is implemented using a few buttons or a more detailed touch screen or keyboard interface. In the case of a touch screen, the user interface 150 is tied in with the display unit 102. The user interacts with the user application module 170 through the user interface 150. Once the user commences interacting with the user interface 150, a user interrupt is generated by the user application module 170. The user interrupt is supplied to the scheduler 140, in response to which the schedule 120 is cleared and rescheduling is undertaken. The user interrupt is also supplied to the output compiler 110, in response to which the presently displayed advertisements or other items of information are terminated and a menu associated with the user application module is displayed. The operation of the user application module 170 will be described below in more detail.--

The paragraph beginning at line 12 of page 11 has been amended as follows:

--The schedule 120 in step 803 and decision block 810 determines if there are any uncompiled advertisements ~~in the schedule~~. If there are none, the output compiler 110 waits for a configurable amount of time in step 820 before checking again. Once there is an advertisement to be compiled, step 830 retrieves the data from the local storage device 130 and step 840 decodes and renders the data where necessary. After decoding and rendering the data, step 850 then sends the data to the output devices 100 ready for output. The output compiler then updates [[the]] schedule 120 in step 860 to indicate that the

advertisement has been compiled. The process then starts again checking [[the]] schedule  
120 back in step 803.--